

## 8. On a new Species of Broadbilled Sandpiper.

By H. E. DRESSER, F.Z.S.

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Having lately had occasion to examine a large series of specimens of our Broadbilled Sandpiper, *Limicola platyrhyncha* (Temm.), in order to work out that species for the 'Birds of Europe,' I found on examining examples from Siberia and China that they differ constantly from our European bird in summer dress; and as I find that there are in the series I have examined no intermediate specimens between these two forms, I think that the Eastern one, which has not hitherto been described, should be separated from our western bird; and I propose to call it *Limicola sibirica*. It differs in the summer plumage in having the feathers on the crown and entire upper parts very broadly margined with bright rufous, so as to give this colour extreme prominence, the upper parts being, in fact, similar in colour to those of *Tringa minuta* in fullest summer dress. In *Limicola platyrhyncha*, on the other hand, the general coloration of the upper parts is black, the margins to the feathers being narrow and white or ochreous white, and the crown is very dark. The underparts in *Limicola sibirica* are as in *Limicola platyrhyncha*, except that the throat is less spotted, the chin and upper throat being quite unspotted. In measurements I find no constant difference, as both species vary somewhat *inter se*; but, as a rule, the eastern bird has the wing and tarsus rather longer than in *L. platyrhyncha*. In the winter plumage the two species cannot always with certainty be distinguished; but, as a rule, the eastern one appears to be a trifle paler than the European bird. As it is hardly necessary to exhibit the large series of specimens I have had for examination, I have brought three specimens of *Limicola sibirica* in full summer plumage, which are all that I have in that dress, and two in winter dress; and for comparison I have taken at random four examples of *Limicola platyrhyncha* in summer plumage and two in winter plumage. With two exceptions, all the specimens of *Limicola sibirica* I have examined were obtained in China by Mr. Swinhoe. The following is a full description of a specimen in full summer plumage from China.

*LIMICOLA SIBIRICA*, sp. nov.

*Capite et corpore supra pulchre ferrugineis, plumis mediuliter nigris vix albo marginatis; scapularibus dorso concoloribus, alis sicut in Limicola platyrhyncha pictis, sed pallidioribus et griseo-scentioribus; rectricibus centralibus nigris vulderufomarginatis, reliquis griseis vix albo marginatis; fronte et stria superciliari albis; capitis et colli lateribus dorso concoloribus sed magis griseo-albo notatis; corpore subtus albo, mento immaculato, gutture nigrofusco et ferrugineo guttato.*

This species appears to breed in Northern Siberia, and to migrate southward into China in the autumn. How far westward its range

extends I cannot positively say; but there is a specimen in the Cambridge Museum sent by Mr. Blyth and stated to have been obtained in "India;" but no precise locality is given. All the other specimens from India and Baluchistan are referable to *L. platyrhyncha*. I may add that there is a specimen of *L. sibirica* in full summer dress, from Siberia, in the Cambridge Museum.

### 9. On a new Species of *Tetraogallus*.

By H. E. DRESSER, F.Z.S.

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Mr. Charles Danford, who has just returned from the Taurus mountains with a rich collection of mammals and birds, has brought a fine series of specimens of a Snow-Partridge, which he has requested me to compare and determine. As I find it is as yet undescribed, and quite distinct from any known species, I propose to give it the name suggested by him of *TETRAOGALLUS TAURICUS*, as the Taurus range appears to be its true habitat.

Though allied to *Tetraogallus caucasicus*, this species is very easily distinguishable from that bird, not only by its coloration, as will be seen by the detailed description, but also by its much larger size. The following is the description of a pair selected from the series.

♀ adulta *pileo sordide cinereo-cano vix cervino tincto, versus nucham cervino cinereo; collo postico et dorso antico cervino-cinereis; corpore supra reliquo sicut in Tetraogallo caucastico picturato, sed pallide cervino cinereo nec saturate cinereo; alis sicut in T. caspio, sed tectricibus majoribus magis cæruleis et ad basin minus vermiculatis; cauda sicut in T. caucastico, sed pallidiore; fronte, stria superciliari, capitis lateribus et gula cervino-albis; regione suboculari pallide cano, et stria magna in colli lateribus utrinque saturate cana; gutture et pectore superiore cinereo-canis, pluris cinereo-cervino terminatis et nigro guttatis; pectore reliquo cinereo-cervino griseo-nigro vermiculato, plumis omnibus ad basin cæruleo-canis; abdomine centrali schistaceo-fuliginoso; crisso sordide cervino, subcaudalibus cervino-albis; hypochondriis cæruleo-canis, utrinque castaneo striatis et nigro marginatis, plumis nonnullis in parte suprema vermiculatis, et plumis in parte ima cinereo-cervinis nigro-cinereo vermiculatis et cervino-castaneo marginatis; rostro flavido ad basin pallidiore, naribus rufo-aurantiacis; plaga nuda circum et infra oculos læte flava; pedibus læte rufo-aurantiacis, unguibus saturate corneis: iride fusca.*

♀ minor et sordidior; *pileo vix cervino et saturate griseo notato; stria in colli lateribus et gutture antico nigro notatis, hoc griseo vermiculato; plaga nuda oculuri minore; rostro et pedibus sicut in mare, sed paulo sordidioribus.*

*Adult Male* (Koroskeui, Taurus, 15th April, 1876). Crown dull ashy blue, with a buff tinge gradually merging into ashy buff, this latter colour pervading the hind neck and fore part of the back: